

## **Minutes of Parson Drove Parish Council Meeting held in The Cage on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016.**

Attended by Councillors G Booth (Chairman), P Spriggs (Vice Chairman), J Cook, J Hunt, & C Killingworth.

### **16/183. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllr P Williams and Cllr C Bates.

### **16/184. To consider any requests by Councillors for Dispensations.**

There were no requests for dispensations from Councillors.

### **16/185. Members' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda.**

The Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda item Number 16/197 a) as he is an allotment garden tenant and left the meeting whilst this item was discussed and agreed.

Cllr Spriggs declared a prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda item number 16/ 197 b) as a close family member is an allotment tenant and left the meeting whilst this item was discussed and agreed.

The Clerk declared a prejudicial interest for Agenda item number 16/197 a) and b) and left the meeting whilst these matters were discussed

Cllr Cook declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item Number 16/199 as he is an officer of the Amenities 95 committee.

### **16/186. Public Participation – To allow up to 15 minutes for any members of the public to address the meeting.**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

### **16/187. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016.**

The minutes were taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **16/188. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016. (Information only).**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **16/189. Community Police Officers Report.**

The Clerk had received an email advising of the crimes reported in the parish during September comprising of 1 attempted dwelling burglary at Church End and 1 attempted shed burglary along The Bank. The North Rural Forum originally planned for early October had been suspended whilst discussions take place on how best to proceed with this event in view of the loss of the New Horizon Bus.

Speeding in rural villages remains to be of concern and during October the Police will be undertaking speed enforcement patrols in order to combat this problem. The Police are also trying to involve the village schools and children in participating in a School Speed Enforcement Day project involving children making signs and compiling questions of their own to ask drivers who are caught speeding near to school premises. Local community groups are being encouraged to set up their own speed watch groups subject to enough volunteers being found.

**16/190. To receive reports from County & District Councillors.**

District Councillor Booth advised that despite 12,000 responses being received on the Brown Bin Consultation and a petition being presented to the District Council at their last meeting it has been decided that the final decision will be made by the Cabinet at their meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> October when it is being recommended that the District Council proceed with withdrawing this free service.

Discussions are continuing regarding Devolution with the majority being in favour of this but the Government are still pressing for an elected Mayor which has not received the same level of support.

**16/191. Planning Matters & Applications for consideration.**

a) P Walter, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0848/PNH, No Agent, erection of a single storey rear extension, 381 Main Road, Parson Drove.

The Clerk advised that although this planning application was listed on the District Council's website no planning documents had been received.

b) D Gilbert, Planning Application No F/YR16/0862/F, No Agent, erection of a 2 storey 4 bed dwelling involving demolition of existing dwelling in a Conservation Area, Heathfield House, 30 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Councillors resolved to support this application and recommend approval is granted.

c) Notification from Fenland District Council that the following Planning Applications have been approved.

J Crowson, Planning Application No F/YR16/0709/F, MAP Design Services, erection of a stable block and tack room on land north of Elbow Cottage, Elbow Lane, Church End, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

A C Bennett Construction Ltd., Planning Application No F/YR16/0534/F, Agent Studio 11 Architecture, for the erection of 4 single storey 3 bed dwellings with integral single garages, involving the demolition of 3 The Bank on land north east of 2 The Bank, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

J Askey, Planning Application No F/YR16/0642/TRTPO, the following were approved:- to fell 1 Cherry Tree, 1 Beech Tree and works to 3 Ash trees, the application also included permission to fell a Maple tree which was refused, Apple Crumble Cottage, Church End, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

d) Notification that the following planning applications have been refused.

A Spriggs, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0641/RM, Agent David Broker, Reserved Matters application relating to Planning Application No. F/YR12/0962/O for the erection of 4 three bed two storey dwellings on land North of 9 Riverside Gardens, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

P Boreman, Planning Application No. F/YR16/0435/F, Agent Morton Hall Ltd., erection of a part 2 storey part single storey 5 bed dwelling involving the demolition of existing barns on land north of 23 & 27 Main Road, Parson Drove.

Information noted by Councillors.

**16/192. Accounts & Finance**

a) Councillors resolved to approve the following invoices for payment.

Mrs Yvonne Reader, 1 months' salary & expenses, £509.38.L.G.A. 1972 s112.

PKF Littlejohn LLP, External Audit Fees, £240. Accounts & Audit Regs. 2015.

Information Commissioner, Data Protection Registration Renewal Fee, £35.

L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

C&PALC, Annual Catch Up Training Day charge, £60. L.G.A. 1972 s 111.

b) To consider quotation received for repairs to the Cage front doors and the Notice Board. Councillors resolved to accept the quotation received to repair the notice board on the village green for £265.

Councillors resolved to accept the quotation received for £390 to replace one of the external Cage doors, repair frame and paint both doors.

c) To receive and approve a Receipts & Payments Bank Reconciliation Report and Budget Update Report.

Councillors resolved to approve the reports presented by the Clerk with no issues arising at the present time.

d) To approve the ordering of the Remembrance Day wreath.

Councillors resolved to approve the ordering of the Wreath and agreed that this would be laid by the Chairman at the Remembrance Day Service.

e) Request from a Parishioner to provide a donation to the Kings Lynn Critical Care Unit.

The Clerk advised that she was unable to confirm that the Parish Council had the power to agree to the request for a donation to be given to the Kings Lynn Hospital Critical Care Unit. Therefore the Chairman agreed to inform the parishioner that the request for a donation had been refused by the Council.

f) Information received from NALC & SLCC advising that the Department for Communities & Local Government are considering proposals regarding council tax referendum principles for local parish and town councils and urging us to write to our local Member of Parliament objecting to the proposals.

Councillors agreed to send a letter to DCLG and our local MP raising our objections to this proposal.

**16/193. Report on progress from the working group on Neighbourhood Planning.**

The Chairman advised that he had spoken to the new Officer dealing with Neighbourhood Plans who was looking at the draft policies and would be arranging a meeting with him in the near future.

**16/194. Notification from C Bellamy and G Bellamy that they wish to resign as Parish Council Representatives on the John Bends United Charity.**

Councillors resolved to note this but to defer electing two replacement representatives until all Councillors had had the opportunity to consider the responsibilities involved before the replacements representatives were elected.

**16/195. To debate & respond where appropriate to items of correspondence received.**

Email from Fenland District Council inviting members to attend a briefing from Cambridgeshire Community Services to present an update on plans to enhance the health and care provisions in Wisbech, centred around redevelopment of North Cambs Hospital on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October from 2.30pm at Fenland Hall, March.

Councillor Cook advised that we would try to attend this briefing.

b) Email from the County Council asking if we would like some Winter Health Information Packs again this year.

Councillors resolved to request 75 packs for this year.

**16/196. Highway & Street Lighting Matters.**

a) Highway issues to be reported to Cambridgeshire County Council.

Councillors reported that motorist were speeding and cutting the corner near Elbow Lane, Church End and it was resolved to request a sign warning motorists of the concealed road entrance.

Overgrown bushes obstructing the highway were again an issue on both sides of the road at the bottom of Church End and along Highside.

Pot holes were reported at the side of the road at the top of Swan Gardens.

b) Email from the County Council Local Highway Projects Team advising that applications under the Local Highways Improvement Initiative for 2017/2018 must be submitted online by the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Councillors resolved to defer this matter until the next meeting pending further information being obtained by the Chairman and the completion of phase 2 of the footpath along Sealeys Lane.

c) Email from North Level Internal Drainage Board advising that the over grown hedge along Murrow Bank is technically the tenants responsibility and that they will contact the tenant to remind him of this.

Response noted by Councillors but it was considered unlikely that the tenant would attend to this as the hedge had always been maintained by the Drainage Board in the past.

d) Update report regarding Parish Street Lighting.

There was no further information to report to Councillors.

e) Faulty Street lights to be reported to the County Council.

Councillors reported faulty street lights on Swan Bridge, outside the Mulberries and the Old Farm House, Main Road and opposite the Butchers Arms.

**16/197. Riverside Garden Allotments & Fen Allotments.**

a) To review the annual rents of the Riverside Garden Allotments.

The Chairman and Clerk left the room for this Agenda Item and the Vice Chairman Cllr Spriggs chaired the meeting.

Councillors resolved to leave the rents unchanged for a further year in view of the current economic uncertainty.

b) To review the annual rents of the Fen Allotments.

Cllr Spriggs and the Clerk left the room for this Agenda item.

Councillors resolved to leave the rents unchanged for a further year in view of the current economic uncertainty.

**16/198. Risk Assessment.**

**To receive report following the annual inspection of the trees on the village green.**

The Clerk advised that following the annual inspection of the trees on the village green with the contractor there was not a great amount of general maintenance work required to remove the dead wood. The contractor had suggested reducing the size of 3 Lime trees by 30% outside 2 and 3 The Bank as these were getting very tall. Discussions also took place regarding the Lime tree outside 24 The Bank in view of concerns raised by the contractor last year. As it was unlikely that permission would be granted to fell this tree as the main trunk appeared sound it was suggested that the tree was pollarded in order to remove the large high decayed branches. Quotations had been requested for the 3 areas of work recommended but to date had not been received.

Councillors resolved for the Clerk to submit a planning application to the District Council for permission to reduce the 3 Lime trees outside 2 and 3 The Bank by 30% and pollard the Lime tree outside 24 The Bank.

**16/199. Amenities 95 Management Committee Report.**

Cllr Cook advised that committee members had recently had a meeting with a representative from Leader 2 to discuss grant funding for the village hall and would perhaps be able to apply for a grant of £30,000. A grant application had also been submitted to WREN and they were waiting for a response. A new committee member had recently joined but more were still needed.

**16/200. Councillors questions to Chairman & Clerk.**

Cllr Hunt asked for an explanation on the planning term, ribbon effect on development, as this had recently been used on a planning application. The Chairman explained that this term was used to describe development going further out of the main village settlement.

**16/201. Any other business (information items only).**

The Chairman advised that the recent Gymkhana had been very successful raising £2,000.

**16/202. Dates for future Council meetings.**

Councillors resolved to hold an additional meeting in January 2017 to discuss and agree on the Budget & Precept for 2017/2018 and to provisionally continue with meetings being held during 2017 on the second Wednesday of each month.

The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November starting at 7.30pm following the collection of the Gardens and Allotments rents at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed 8.50pm.